

In The Works



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Nancy Beward

Message from the Directors Office

By Nancy Beward, Assistant Director

We hope you enjoy this edition of the Public Works Employee Newsletter - there are some new additions to the newsletter this month - Employee Spotlight, Mailbag: Ask the Director, Employees in Action (are you pictured?), Project Highlights, and Budget Notes among other things. This edition of the newsletter will focus on the Operational Divisions and the

Engineering group and some of their big capital projects. Next time, we'll focus on the Architects and their projects. So I encourage you to take time to read this newsletter.

The last couple of months have been very busy for our operational divisions - Traffic Operations has shown great increases in productivity. Their long lane striping crew has increased their monthly striping average due to additional markings technicians funded through the Advanced Transportation District (ATD) program - last year they averaged 42 miles per month and this year they are averaging 86 ½ miles per month! Storm Water Operations has been asked by the City Manager to increase graffiti abatement and they have met that challenge by dedicating additional crews to combating graffiti as well as enlisting the help of their summer youth workers - their normal graffiti coverage is 375,000 sq. ft. for a year and as of last week of last week they have covered over 450,000 sq. ft. and we still have 3 months left in the year! The Street Maintenance Division has been hard at work on the FY 2006 Street Maintenance Program -they have already repaired 900,500 square yards of streets or the equivalent of 140 football fields!

With such a heavy workload and the extreme high temperatures it is important to remember to be safe while you're working. Make sure you're drinking enough fluids and taking appropriate breaks throughout the day. Being alert and refreshed on the job allows you to continue the production of high quality projects for the citizens of San Antonio.

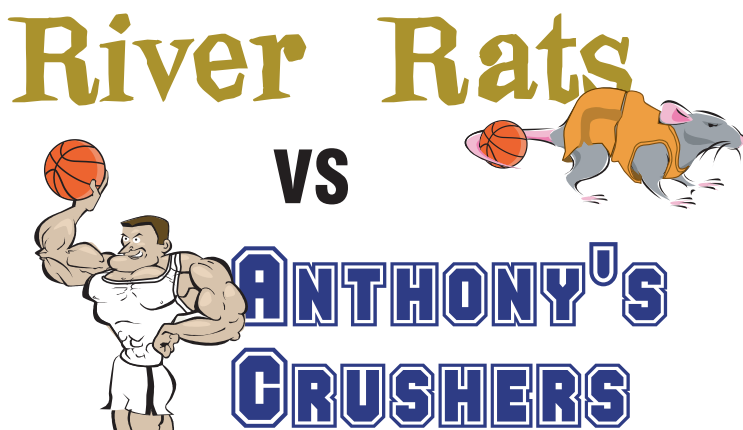
Your commitment to providing quality products, working safely, and working as a team is what makes Public Works successful and I appreciate all of your hard work.

The Third Annual Graffiti Wipeout Volunteer Day was held on June 3, 2006. Participation has grown to an all-time high with 1,272 volunteers painting over unsightly graffiti city-wide. Almost 800 gallons of recycled paint were used to paint over 126,000 square foot of graffiti. Public Works did not go unnoticed, our employees along with family and friends earned 2nd place in the "Department with the Highest Number of Participation" awards category!



Sports

June 22, 2006



Fundraiser event was held on June 22, 2006.
Money was raised and fun had by all





Getting to Know Your Co-Worker



Billy started his Public Works career as an Equipment Operator I in 1995. Billy has since moved up in ranks to an Equipment Operator III position by paying attention to details, learning by observing, and keeping himself available for over-time. Mr. Hubbs enjoys his current job and has aspirations of being the Assistant Super Intendant of the Streets Department in his future. Mr. Hubbs enjoys operating all of the city's equipment but his favorite piece of equipment is the front

end loader. Mr. Hubbs also enjoys his work as equipment operator because he likes working outside, being involved with the citizens, and being a first responder to citizens and their questions. When Mr. Hubbs is not at work he likes to spend time relaxing with family.

Billy Hubbs

Street Maintenance Division



Hard at Work

Rick Villar

Senior Electronic Technician

Installing a Driver Feedback Sign on Bitters road.



1512 Chris Drake

ROW Inspector

Inspection Emergency Main Break for SAWS.



1509 Edward Botello

ROW Inspector

Bexar Met. Water call requesting limits to replace sidewalk.



20 Years of Service

Thank you for your dedication and services at the
City of San Antonio Public Works Department.

Rudy Guzman

Construction Inspections Supervisor

Ronald Carreon

Senior Construction Inspector

Elizabeth Lara

Secretary II

Roy Castillo

Senior Electronic Technician

Jose Cansino

Equipment Operator II



Interns at Work

Disability Access Office Interns

Interns Danny and Olivia working on River
Walk Accessible Map distribution



Scott working in his work station





Project Highlights

Henderson Pass Bridge at Lorence Creek by Al Siam Ferdous, P.E.



For years, residents near Lorence Creek at Henderson Pass have experienced inconvenience and risk to health and safety due to the presence of a low water crossing (LWC). In 2003, the City of San Antonio identified funds from the Storm Water Revenue Bond to construct a bridge over Lorence Creek at Henderson Pass. This project is lead by

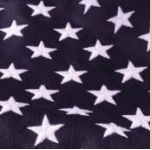
Al Siam Ferdous, P.E., Project Manager; Richard Grochowski, P.E., Project Engineer, Alan J. Lopez, Senior Engineering Associate; Richard Casiano, Capital Projects Officer; and, Hector Luna, Senior Engineering Technician. This project is currently under construction and scheduled to be finished by the end of this year.

In the following paragraphs I would like to highlight aspects that make this an all-around successful project - from design through construction. The following are some of the interdependent requirements that had to be addressed during design:

1. Minimize amount of ROW Acquisition required
2. Minimize impact on existing trees
3. Minimize cost of the bridge
4. Minimize closure time of Henderson Pass
5. Minimize impact on adjacent landowners
6. Maintain existing 100-year design flood elevation.
7. Minimize Individual Core Permit by minimizing impact on jurisdictional waters of the U.S.

A significant amount of effort was expended in developing the proposed horizontal alignment for the new bridge and approach roadways, since it would affect the amount of ROW to be acquired, which trees are removed and which replaced, the cost of the bridge, and the construction duration.

Several roadway horizontal alignment alternatives were developed and studied. The pros and cons of each of the alignment alternatives were evaluated and the horizontal alignment that best addressed the preceding issues, taken as a whole, was selected.



Project Highlights (Henderson Pass Continued)

The proposed horizontal alignment selected is straighter than the existing horizontal alignment. Since most of the bridge is not on a curve, many of the bridge components can be repeated. This will allow us to use pre-cast members instead of having to cast-in-place the concrete, thereby eliminating the need for formwork and flatwork under the vast majority of the slab. This repetition speeds up construction and reduces construction cost.

The proposed vertical alignment had to be raised a minimum elevation to accommodate not only the design flood creek flow, but also the depth of the bridge superstructure. To minimize the elevation difference between the proposed and existing vertical alignments, the depth of the superstructure was minimized. By raising the proposed vertical alignment by only the amount

necessary for the superstructure and the design flow, the project affected a smaller area of the neighborhood, the amount of retaining wall required was reduced, and the transition between the existing roadways to remain in place and the new approach roadways and bridge was made smoother.

As part of our effort to minimize construction cost, bridge contractors from around the state were contacted to make them aware of the project. The bid date was also planned so that it would not coincide with the letting date of the Texas Department of Transportation. If the two dates were to coincide, some contractors would have to choose between bidding on state construction work and this project. Both of these measures resulted in more competition between contractors and thereby a lower construction cost.

Incentives were also included in the construction contract for the contractor to reduce the amount of time that Henderson Pass is closed. The contractor is permitted by contract to close Henderson Pass for approximately nine months without any penalty. The economic incentive language basically states that for each day (up to 60 days) that the contractor can reduce the roadway closure time less than nine months, the contractor will be rewarded monetarily. The contractor awarded the project has indicated that it is their goal to reduce the closure time by the maximum amount.

As is evident in the preceding highlights, the design team has successfully addressed all of the project requirements.



FEEDBACK

This is YOUR newsletter! What would you like to see? What kind of articles are you interested in? Got an interesting story to tell? Send your articles and pictures today! Send all articles, comments, and suggestions to mramos@sanantonio.gov or by phone at 207-8026.

Project Highlights (Continued)

The Lanark Drainage project is nearing completion after close to two years in construction. This project provides significant floodplain improvements for the drainage channel (Walzem Creek) north of Krueger Middle School. With the added channel capacity, the floodplain has moved from the backyards adjacent to the channel to the channel itself. In addition, two low water crossings have been eliminated at Dell Oak and Overland with the installation of bridges at these locations over the channel. Residents in the project area no longer need to worry when storm clouds gather over San Antonio. And motorists can now safely cross over storm waters at the channel bridges. The pictures below show the improvements before and after the project.

This project began construction in August 2004. This project has been lead by Anibal Gutierrez, P.E., Project Manager; Mike Guerrero, P.E., Project Engineer; Kathryn Otto, Senior Engineering Associate; Mike Pink, Capital Projects Officer; and, Pete Rodriguez, Senior Engineering Technician.

Before



Eastside

Installing the Bridge



After



Eastside



Westside



Westside

Ethics Training

The City's Ethics Training is mandatory for everyone and must be scheduled through your assigned Human Resource Staff. Please review the sign up times and contact your HRS to schedule your training as soon as possible. **WHEN YOU SIGN UP, ATTEND THE TRAINING SESSION!!!** Do not re-schedule unless it is the last resort.

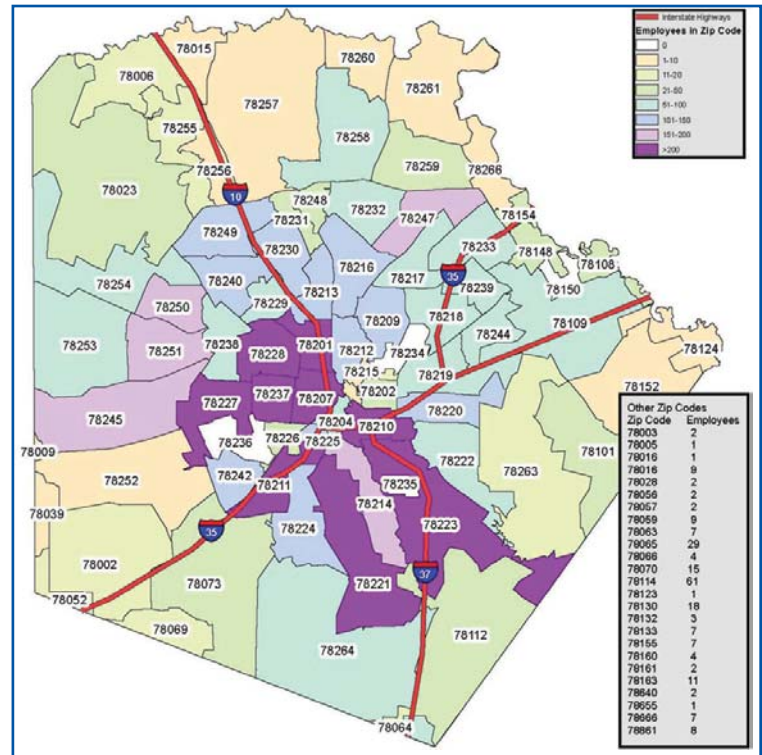
Carpooling

Use the below map to find out how many other City employees live in your zip code. But not all City employees work in the same location. Interested divisions or work sites can request a map depicting their employees only. Carpooling or sharing a ride with one of your co-workers even once a week can save you big bucks.

Call Abigail Kinnison at 207-3971 to request a presentation on carpooling, vanpooling, riding the bus or commuting by bicycle.

If you'd like to sign up to be matched with other City employees in your zip code contact AACOG's Commute Solutions Program at www.aacog.com/commutesolutions or call 227-7665 for more information.

This is a free service to help City employees save gas, time and money.



Budget Corner

Budget season is upon us. The Director's office and the Division Managers are hard at work preparing submittals for the FY 2006-2007 Budget. The next 10 weeks will be very busy for everyone involved. The City Council will set their Goals and Objectives at a "B" session on June 28. Then through the month of July, Public Works will coordinate with the Budget Department to finalize our budget submittals and in accordance with the City Council's Goals. In August, the City Council will begin their work sessions with the City Departments. Finally, the City Council will adopt the budget on September 7, 2006.

We would like to hear your suggestions on how the City can increase efficiencies, generate new revenues and make effective changes to service delivery. You can drop your suggestions in the e-bid budget drop box located at your service center or you can e-mail your suggestion to the Office of Management and Budget at budinternz@sanantonio.gov.

If your e-BID suggestion is chosen for inclusion in the FY 2007 Proposed Budget, you will be recognized for your contribution to the enhancement of City service delivery. The e-BID forum will be available throughout the year. However, ideas for consideration for the FY 2007 Budget should be submitted by July 7.

Maria Villagomez
CPA
Contract Administrator



Mail Bag: Ask the Director

Question #1

Thomas Guerra a Senior Electrician asks: Why do subdivisions get built first before street improvements flow of traffic?

The Traffic Impact Analysis (TIA) Ordinance requires that developers submit a TIA based on the peak-hour trips that are anticipated to be generated by the new development. New developments that generate more than 100 peak-hour trips will have to submit a TIA. There are three different levels of TIA's that may be prepared, based on the peak-hour trips. Essentially, as the number of peak-hour trips increases, so does the mitigation efforts required by the City; however, there is a limit to what can be required of the developer. It is an iterative process in which the developer submits plans, plats, TIA's, etc. and the City reviews them and tries to mitigate the negative consequences of the new development to a reasonable degree.

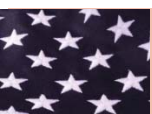
The City does not build roads. Instead, we accept them from developers and maintain them when they are built to the City's standards. Keeping up with growth and managing congestion goes beyond what can be required solely of developers. Particularly in the north and northwest parts of San Antonio, growth and new private developments are outpacing the growth of the street infrastructure. New, innovative funding sources will have to be identified to try and improve the street networks to keep up with the rapidly growing city.

Question #2

John Barbosa a Senior Electronic Technician asks: How can we make developers more conscious of the effects of storm water runoff? How come some developers build detention ponds and others don't?

The key to being conscientious of the effects of storm water runoff is education. Public Works has partnered with San Antonio Water System to offer a class on Construction Inspection Compliance on a quarterly basis. To date, over 200 people, including contractors, have taken this opportunity to learn about the effects of runoff.

The E.P.A. sets the requirements for different types of runoff. As the City of San Antonio we require development to occur with unified development codes found in section 35.504 of the Unified Development Codes. The ponds are built to follow these standards.



Support Our Troops



On July 4, 1776 we claimed our independence from Britain and Democracy was born. As citizens we continue to enjoy privileges provided by America's military. The City of San Antonio Public Works Department would like to extend its appreciation to the employees who serve and protect the freedom of our country.

Get Well Card

To: Monica Ramos and Maggie Scheppers

From: Public Works

Hoping you're comforted by these get well wishes.



Puzzle Contest

First three who respond with the correct answer will receive a prize.

Sudoku Puzzle								
	5				3		4	7
		8	9	7				2
				8	2		5	
		3			6	4	9	1
	4		1		9		8	
9	6	1	2			5		
	9			6				
1				2	7	9		
6	7		8				3	

Upcoming Projects

Projects To Begin Construction Between June and August 2006

Hausman Library
Fire Station Renovations, Phase 1, Group 1
Alamodome Repainting
Southtown (South Presa: Carolina To Lowell)
La Manda: West Avenue To Buckeye
Jo Marie: W. W. White To Deadend Phase 1
Alamo: Durango To Cedar
San Pedro/Huisache Area Drainage Phase I
Hackberry: Steves To Southcross
Goliad Rd: Pecan Valley To Military Drive Phase 1
Elsie: Burbank Loop To Flores)
Laddie Place RSWF Ph 1
W. Glenn: Burbank Loop To Flores
St. Mary's Street: Alamo To Pereida
Linda Lou: Presa To Hackberry
Bob Ross Senior Multi-Services And Health Center

Inez: 34th Street To San Joaquin
Police Training Academy Roof Repair
Library Improvements: Johnston, McCreless, Westfall
Elson: 34th St. to San Joaquin
Beitel Creek Environmental Restoration
Medical Center Intersection Improvements Phase Iii
Semlinger Road: Lord To Rigsby
Ansley Blvd Drainage #1091
Marney Plaza Outfall
Stahl Road: O'Connor To Judson
Marbach Phase I: Military To Pinn
School Sidewalk Priority Program
El Jardin: Northington To U.S. 90
Keats: Nogalitos to Packard
Library Improvements: Pan American, Forest Hills, Cody